



Assemblymember John Laird

Assembly Budget Committee Chair

eNews Update



27th Assembly District

April 15, 2005

California School Districts and Community Colleges Avoid Governor's \$500 Million in New Cuts

I'm pleased to share with you news that the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education has rejected Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal to shift approximately \$500 million in state retirement costs to school districts and community colleges. The \$500 million is currently provided by the state to the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) to pay for future pensions. The Governor's proposal would have forced school administrators to face a new round of deep budget cuts, or make significant cuts to teacher retirement benefits or pay.

The Governor's proposal was out of step with the oft-repeated call from Californians to lift our schools out of the basement in per-pupil funding. In fact, the Governor's proposal would require school districts to eat into reduced Prop 98 funds by another \$500 million. To increase student achievement, California's public schools and community colleges need a strong commitment of funds and tools from the state—the Governor's plan did just the opposite.

Update on 2005 Laird Legislation

AB 982 – Community College Health Service Protection
Passed Assembly Appropriations Committee, moves on to Assembly floor

AB 983 – Santa Cruz County First-time Homebuyers Program
Passed Assembly, moves on to the Senate

AB 1200 – Delta Water System
Passed Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

AB 1204 – Hatton Canyon Parkland
Passed Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, moves on to Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1400 – Civil Right Act of 2005
Passed Assembly, moves on to the Senate

AB 1524 – Coastal Commission Offers to Dedicate
Passed Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, moves on to Assembly Appropriations Committee

For a complete list of John's 2005 bills, and for John's bio, press releases, accolades, Budget Committee and other committee assignments, photos and useful links, please visit: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a27/legis0506.htm>

If you're receiving this as a forwarded email and would like to receive regular updates from me, please send an email with "Subscribe" in the subject line to Assemblymember.Laird@assembly.ca.gov. If you would prefer to not receive email updates from me, please respond with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

John in the District

4/22 – Education Town Hall with Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, at Cabrillo College, Aptos

4/23 – South County Democratic Club BBQ, at San Martin Country Park

4/28 – Regional Meeting of Community College Boards, at Hartnell College, Salinas

4/29 – Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce Lunch, Golden Oaks Restaurant, Morgan Hill

5/5 – Genealogy Society Meeting, at the Family History Center, Seaside

John on the Radio

KAZU – 90.3FM
Tuesdays at 6:59p.m.

KUSP – 88.9FM
Wednesdays at 10:45a.m.

KSCO – 1080AM
Thursdays at 6:45a.m.

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